

United States

US State Dept Travel Advisory

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

A foreign national or alien entering the US is generally required to present a passport and valid visa issued by a US Consular Official, unless they are a citizen of a country eligible for the Visa Waiver Program (VWP), or are a lawful permanent resident of the US or a citizen of Canada. The VWP allows foreign nationals from certain countries to be admitted to the US under limited conditions and for a limited time without obtaining a visa. The foreign national must arrive on an approved carrier (if coming by air or sea), stay no more than 90 days (for pleasure, medical purposes, and/or business), and be able to prove they are not inadmissible. The foreign national is still required to have a passport. To obtain a list of VWP-eligible countries and VWP passport requirements, please visit <https://www.dhs.gov> and/or visa waiver program requirements. Note: all travelers transiting the US are subject to US customs and/or immigration laws.

US Embassy/ Consulate

N/A

Vaccinations

See WHO recommendations

<http://www.who.int>

Climate

Mostly temperate but tropical in Hawaii and Florida, arctic in Alaska, semiarid in the great plains west of the Mississippi River, and arid in the Great Basin of the southwest; low winter temperatures in the northwest are ameliorated occasionally in January and February by warm chinook winds from the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains

Currency (Code)

Dollar (USD)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

120 V / 60 Hz / plug type(s): A, B



Major Languages

English only 78.2%, Spanish 13.4%, Chinese 1.1%, other 7.3%; note: the US has no official national language, but English has acquired official status in 32 of the 50 states; Hawaiian is an official language in the state of Hawaii, and 20 indigenous languages are official in Alaska

Religions

Protestant 46.5%, Roman Catholic 20.8%, Jewish 1.9%, Mormon 1.6%, other Christian 0.9%, Muslim 0.9%, Jehovah's Witness 0.8%, Buddhist 0.7%, Hindu 0.7%, other 1.8%, unaffiliated 22.8%, don't know/refused 0.6%

Time Difference	UTC-5 (during Standard Time); daylight saving time: +1hr, begins second Sunday in March; ends first Sunday in November; note: the 50 United States cover six time zones
Potable Water	Yes
International Driving Permit	Suggested for non-US citizens.
Road Driving Side	Right
Tourist destinations	Grand Canyon; Niagara Falls; Statue of Liberty; Washington, DC (includes White House, National Mall); Yellowstone National Park; Yosemite National Park; Denali National Park; Times Square; Golden Gate Bridge; Mesa Verde; Disney World/Land in Florida/California; Hawaii (includes Oahu, Maui, and island of Hawaii); Utah's national parks; Las Vegas
Cultural Practices	Honking your car horn unnecessarily can make drivers angry in America.
Tipping Guidelines	At restaurants, tip 15-20% of the bill, based on quality of service; if the service is bad, it's customary to tip as low as 10%. For bartenders, tip \$1 per drink or 15-20% of the total bill. Tip taxi drivers 10-15% of the fare. Tip housekeeping \$2-3 per night; tip room service \$1-2 per delivery, regardless of service charge; tip bellhops \$1-2 per bag, or more if the bags are very heavy; \$2-5 for valet; \$1-2 for doormen if they hail a taxi; \$5 and higher for concierge depending on the difficulty of the request.
Telephone Code	1
Local Emergency Phone	911

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination. http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

[US State Dept Travel Information - Overall information about foreign travel for US citizens. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html)

[To obtain an international driving permit \(IDP\). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs: American Automobile Association \(AAA\) \(www.aaa.com\) and American Automobile Touring Alliance \(ATA\) \(www.aataidp.com\)](http://www.aaa.com)

US citizens may call the US Dept of State (+1-202-501-4444) for emergencies abroad.

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